IN THE CLAIMS

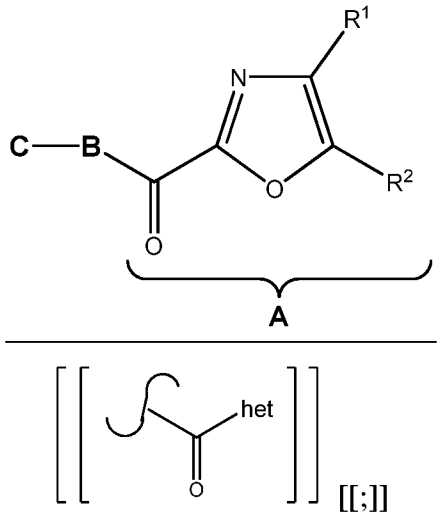
Please cancel claims 5-8 and amend claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 16 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase represented by the following formula:

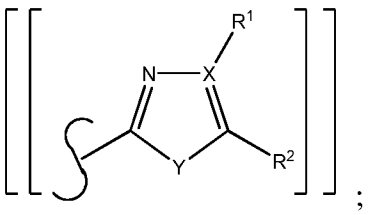
A-B-C

wherein A is an inhibition subunit in the form of an α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase, B is a linkage subunit, and C is a binding subunit ~~and wherein:~~

~~the inhibition subunit A is an α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase, the α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore being~~ wherein A-B-C is represented by the formula:



~~wherein "het" is represented by the following structure:~~



;

wherein

~~X is carbon;~~

~~Y is oxygen;~~

R^1 and R^2 are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, aromatic ring, and heteroaromatic ring;

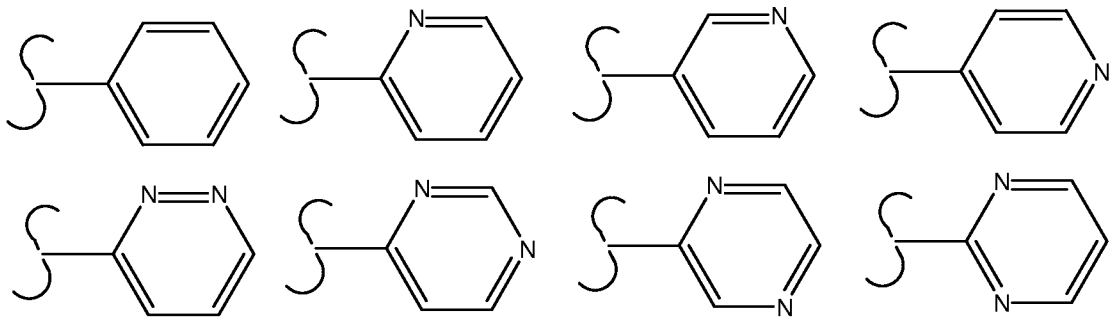
with the proviso that R^1 and R^2 cannot both be hydrogen;

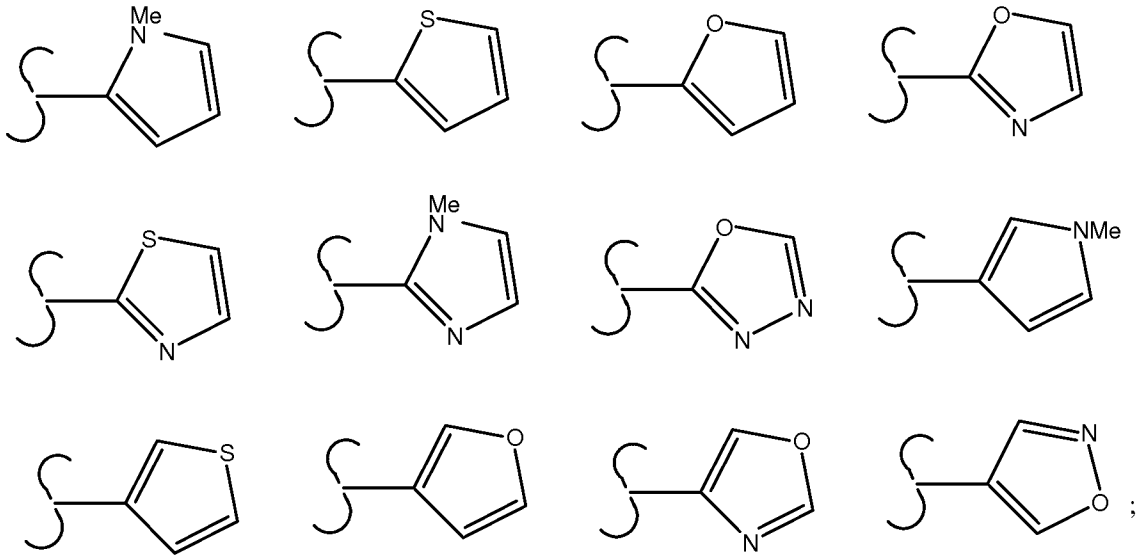
the linkage subunit B is a linear chain of 3 to 9 carbon atoms for linking the inhibition subunit A and the binding subunit C and for enabling the binding subunit C to bind to the binding region on the fatty acid amide hydrolase, ~~the chain having a linear skeleton of 3 to 9 carbon atoms,~~ the linear skeleton having a first end and a second end, the first end being covalently bonded to the α-keto group of A,

wherein [[if]] the first end of B ~~said chain~~ is an α-carbon with respect to the α-keto group of the inhibition subunit A, and ~~then~~ the α-carbon is optionally mono- or bis-functionalized with substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxyl, alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, and alkyl; and

the binding subunit C is a π-bond containing radical having a π-unsaturation and being selected from a group consisting of aryl, alkynyl, and ring structures having at least one unsaturation, with or without one or more heteroatoms, the binding subunit C being covalently bonded to the second end of the linkage subunit B, the π-unsaturation within the π-bond containing radical being separated from the α-keto group of A by a sequence of no less than 3 and no more than 9 atoms bonded sequentially to one another, inclusive of the linear skeleton for enabling the π-unsaturation to bind to the binding region of the fatty acid amide hydrolase while the inhibition subunit A inhibits the fatty acid amide hydrolase.

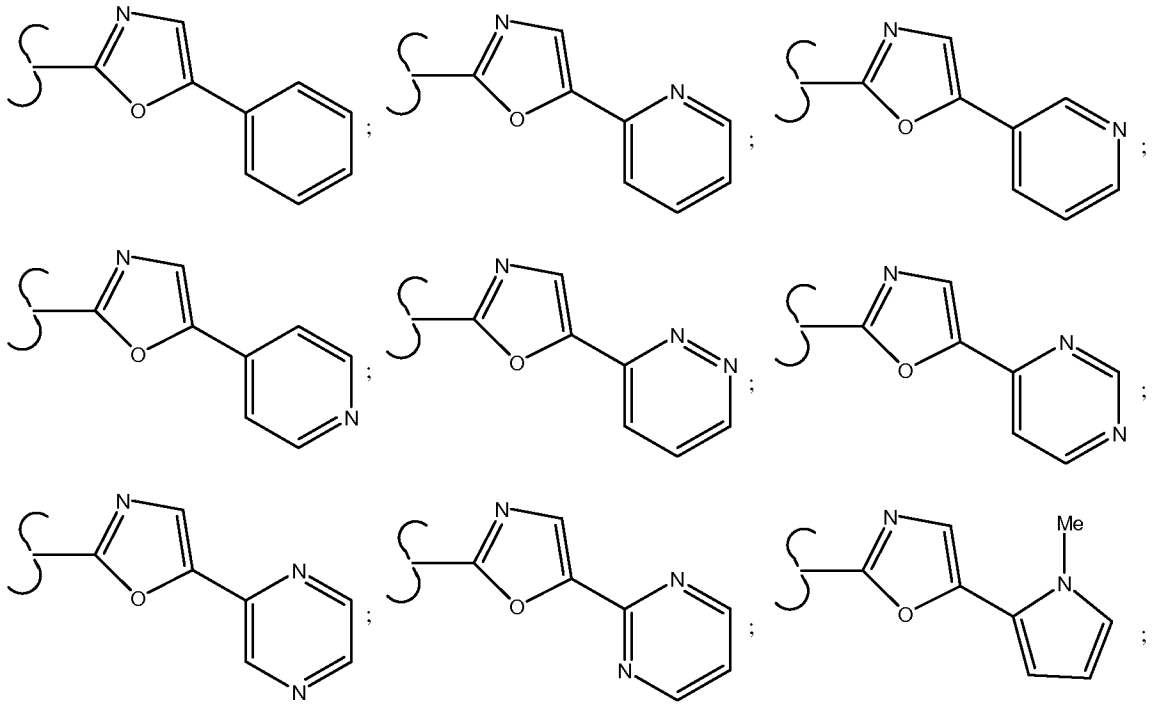
2. (Previously Presented) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 1 wherein R^1 and R^2 are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, and radicals represented by the following structures:

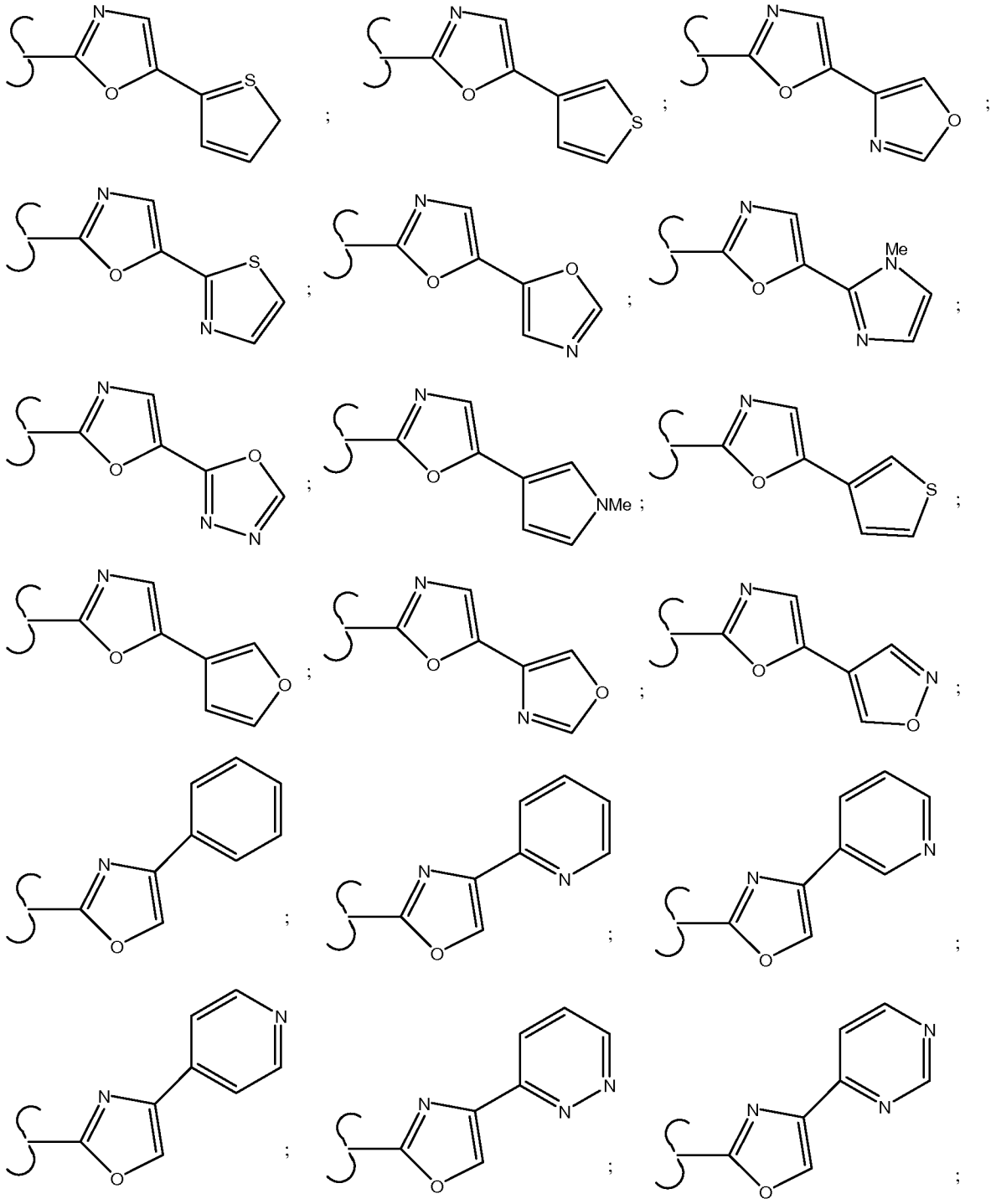




provided that R^1 and R^2 are not both hydrogen.

3. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 2 wherein ~~: "het" of~~ the α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore of the inhibition subunit A is ~~selected from the following group~~:

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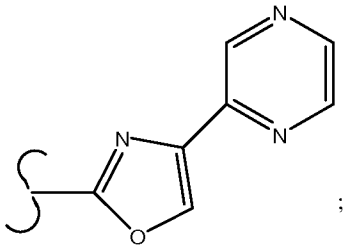
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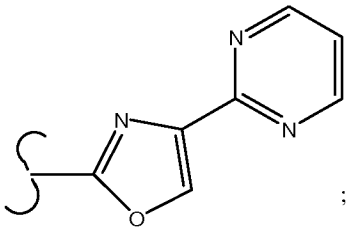
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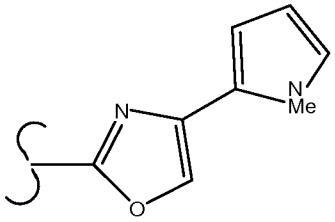
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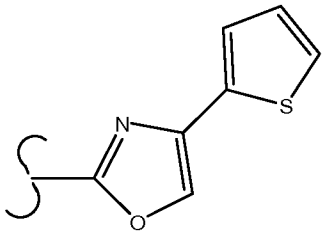
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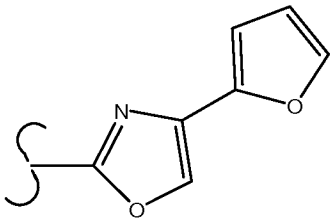
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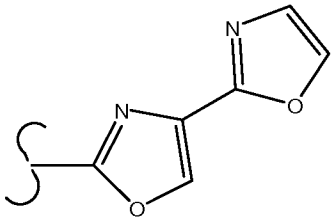
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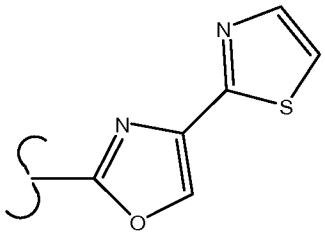
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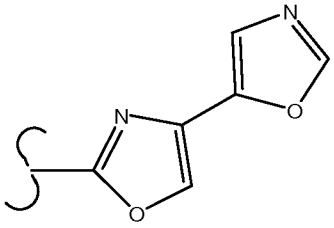
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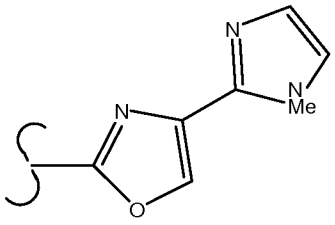
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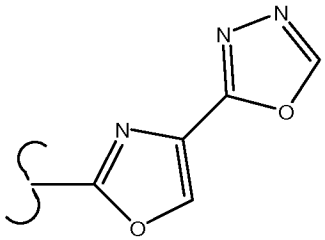
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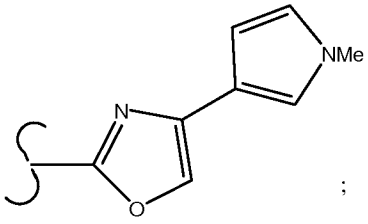
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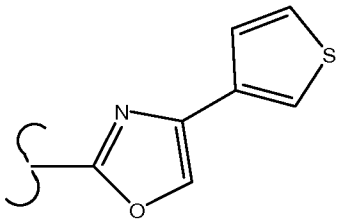
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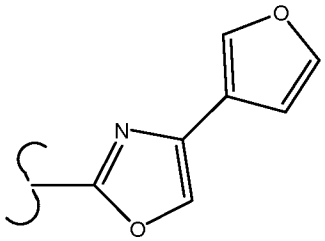
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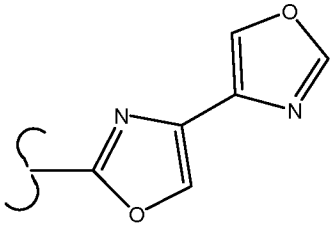
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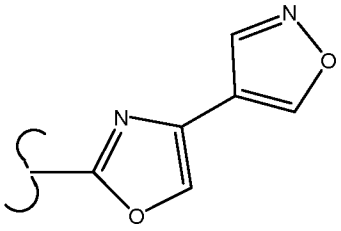
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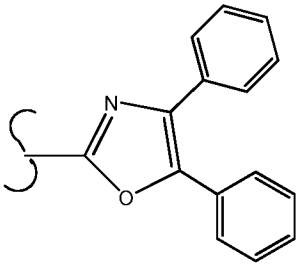
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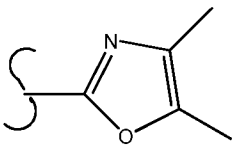
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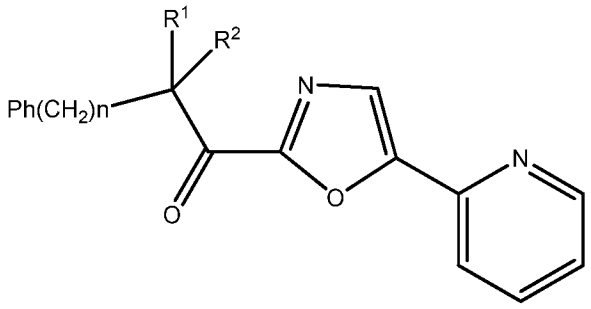
4. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 3 wherein the inhibitor is represented by the following structure:



;

wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, hydroxyl, alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, and alkyl; and

"n" is 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 ~~an integer between 2 and 8~~.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

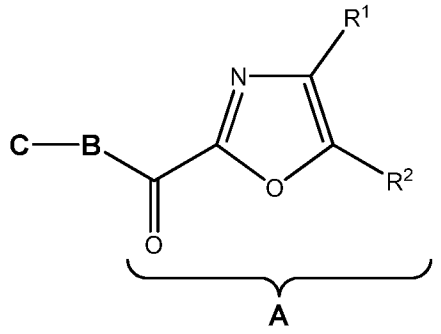
8. (Cancelled)

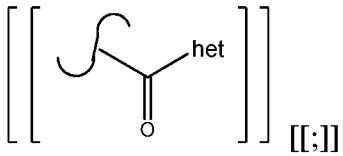
9. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase represented by the following formula:

A-B-C

wherein A is an inhibition subunit in the form of an α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase, B is a linkage subunit, and C is a binding subunit ~~and wherein:~~

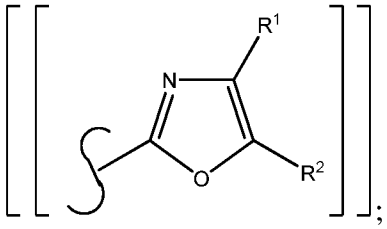
~~the inhibition subunit A is an α keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase, the α keto heterocyclic pharmacophore being~~ wherein A-B-C is represented by the formula:





[[;]]

~~wherein "het" is represented by the following structure:~~



;

wherein

R^1 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, aromatic ring, and heteroaromatic ring;

R^2 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, and heteroaromatic ring;

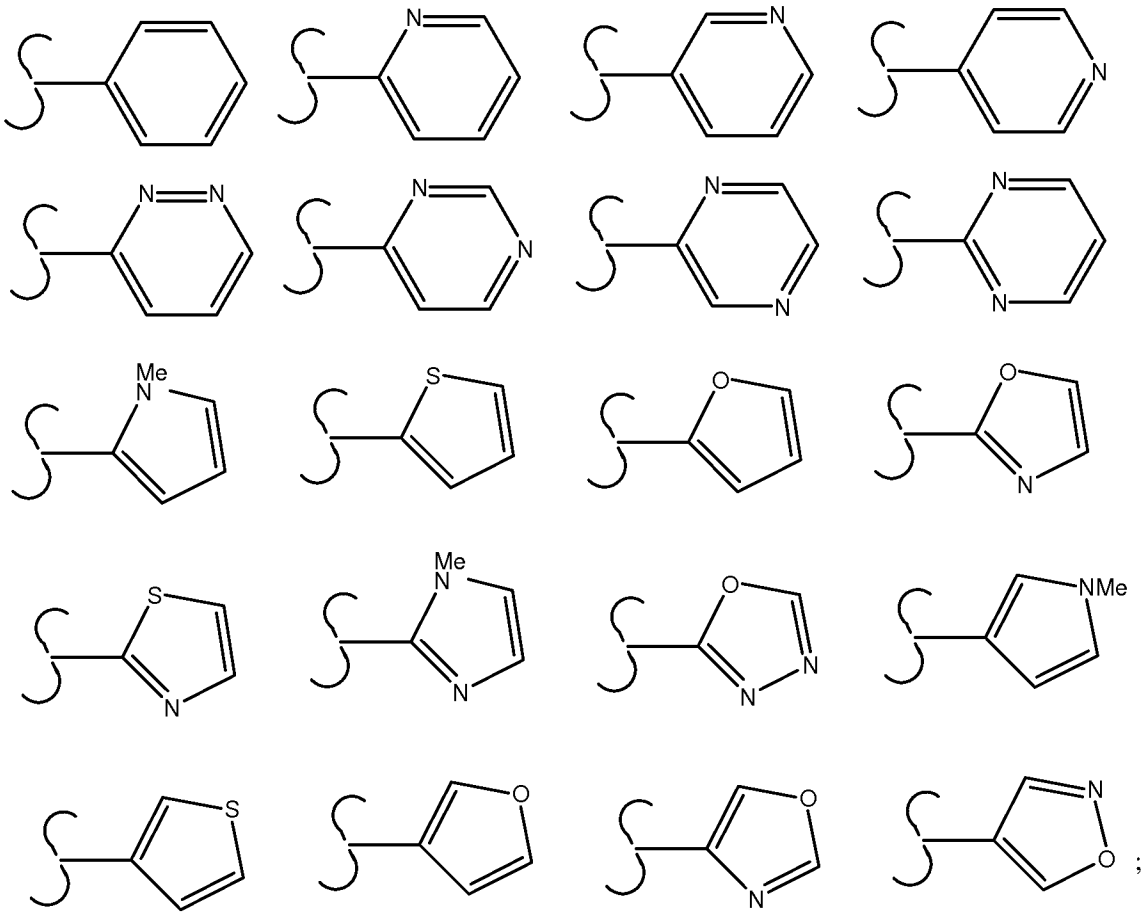
provided that R^1 and R^2 are not both hydrogen;

the linkage subunit B is a <u>linear</u> chain <u>of 3 to 9 carbon atoms</u> for linking the inhibition subunit A and the binding subunit C and for enabling the binding subunit C to bind to the binding region on the fatty acid amide hydrolase, ~~the chain having a linear skeleton of 3 to 9 carbon atoms,~~ the linear skeleton having a first end and a second end, the first end being covalently bonded to the α-keto group of A,

wherein [[if]] the first end of <u>B</u> ~~said chain~~ is an α-carbon with respect to the α-keto group of the inhibition subunit A, <u>and</u> ~~then~~ the α-carbon is optionally mono- or bis-functionalized with substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxyl, alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, and alkyl; and

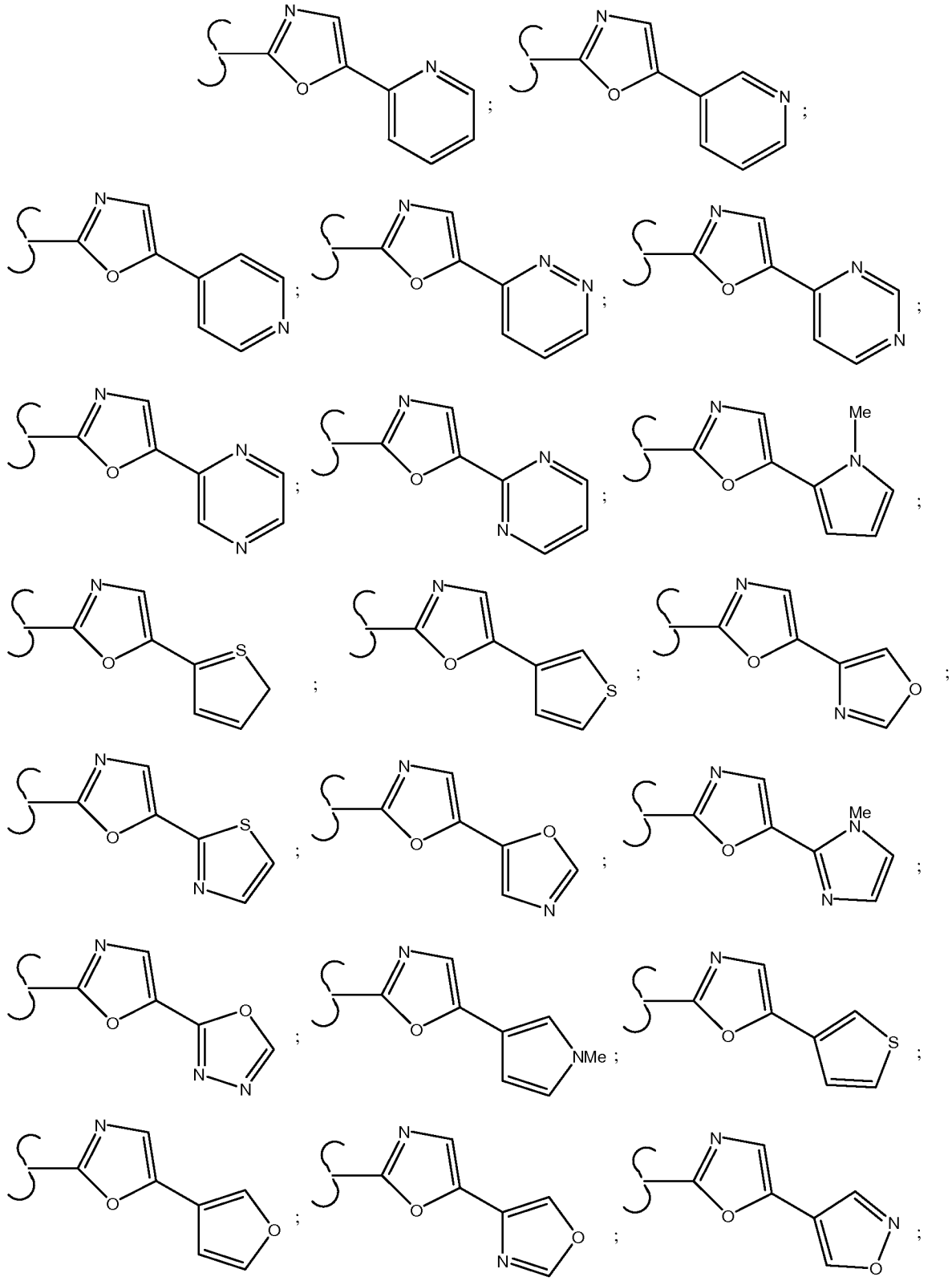
the binding subunit C is C1-C10 alkyl.

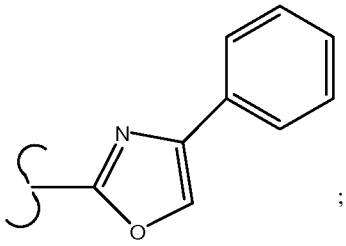
10. (Previously Presented) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 9 wherein R^1 and R^2 are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, and radicals represented by the following structures:



provided that R^2 is not phenyl.

11. (Currently Amended) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 10 wherein ~~"het" of~~ the α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore of the inhibition subunit A is selected from:

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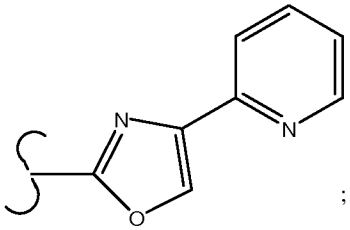
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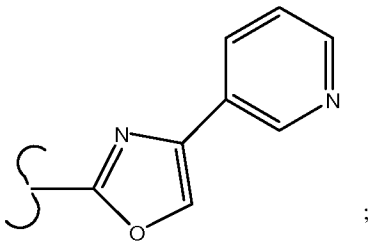
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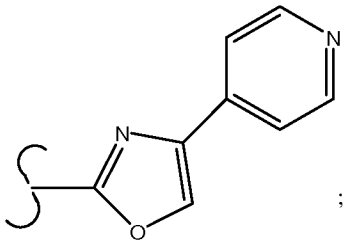
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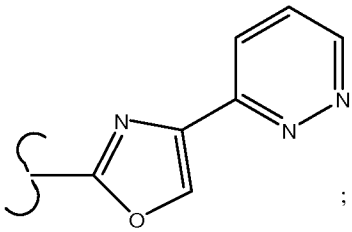
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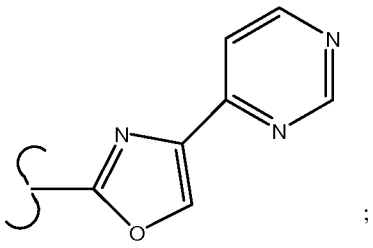
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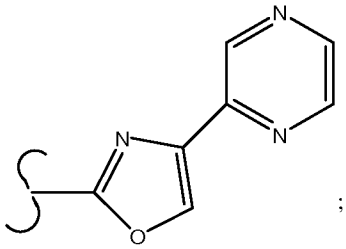
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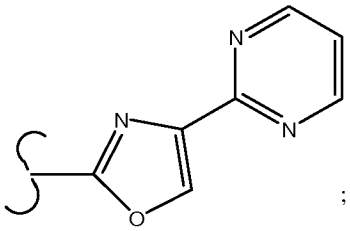
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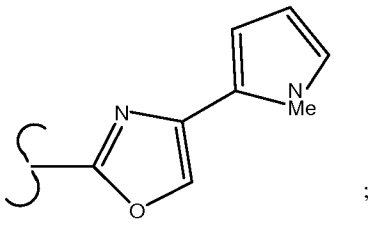
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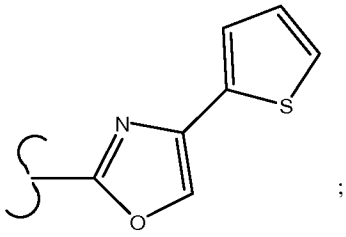
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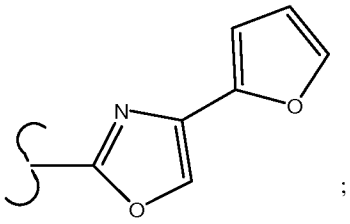
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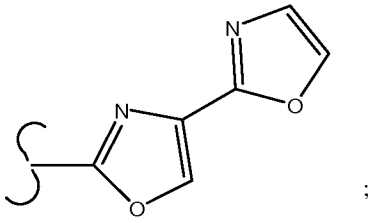
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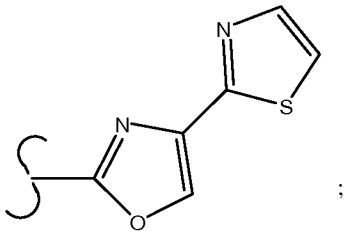
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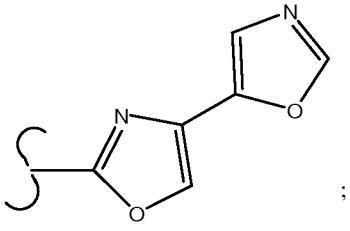
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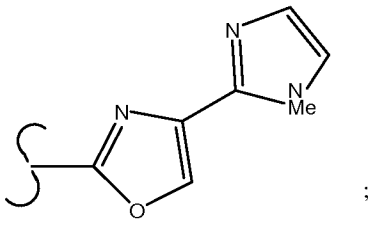
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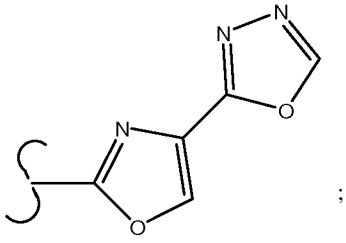
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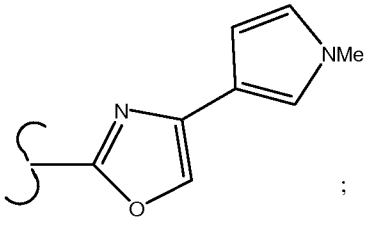
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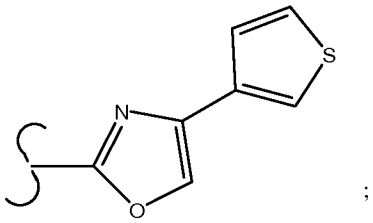
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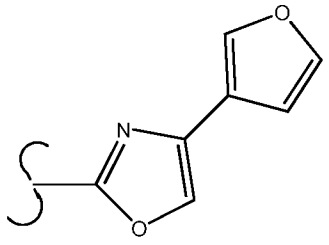
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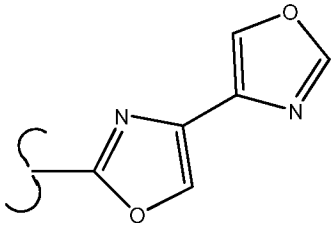
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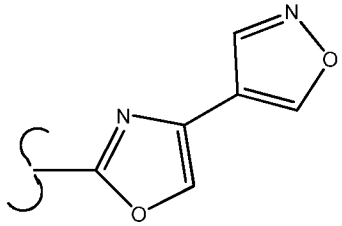
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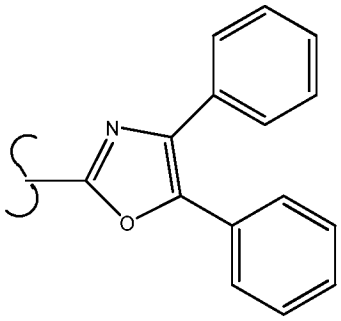
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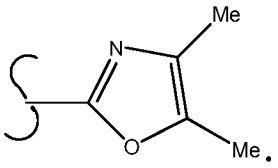
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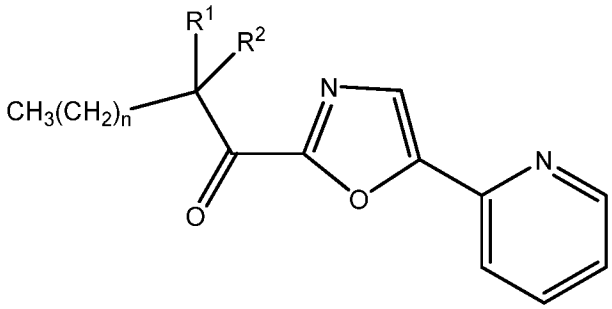
12. (Previously Presented) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 11 wherein the inhibitor is represented by the following structure:



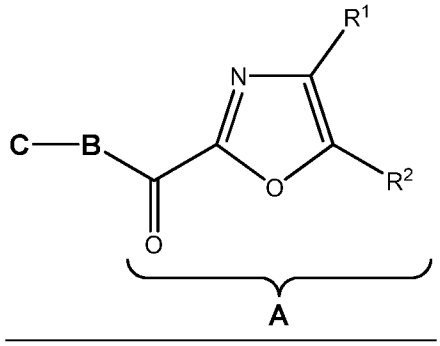
wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, hydroxyl, alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, or alkyl; and "n" is 3 ,4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9.

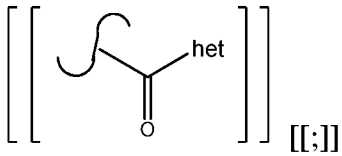
13. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase represented by the formula:

A-B-C

wherein A is an inhibition subunit <u>in the form of an α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase</u>, B is a linkage subunit, and C is a binding subunit ~~and wherein:~~

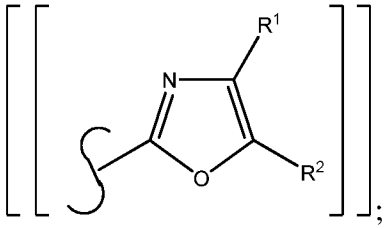
~~the inhibition subunit A is an α keto heterocyclic pharmacophore for inhibiting the fatty acid amide hydrolase, the α keto heterocyclic pharmacophore being~~ wherein A-B-C is represented by the formula:





[[;]]

~~wherein "het" is represented by the following structure:~~



;

wherein

R^1 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, aromatic ring, and heteroaromatic ring;

R^2 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, and heteroaromatic ring;

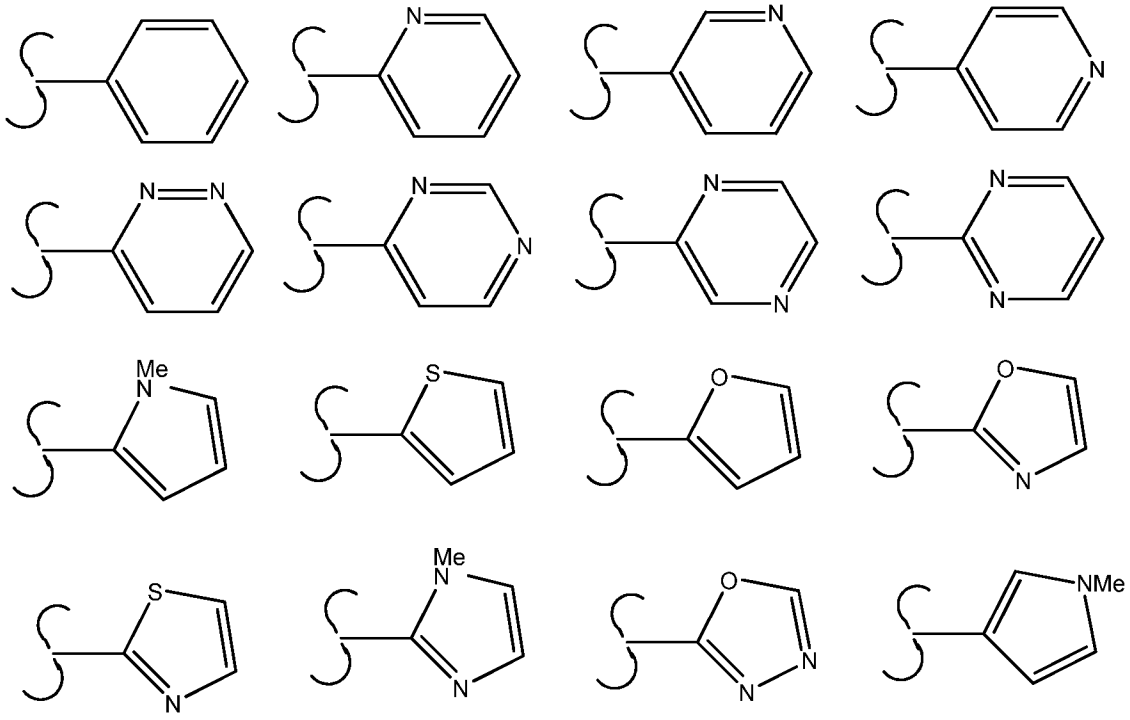
provided that R^1 and R^2 are not both hydrogen;

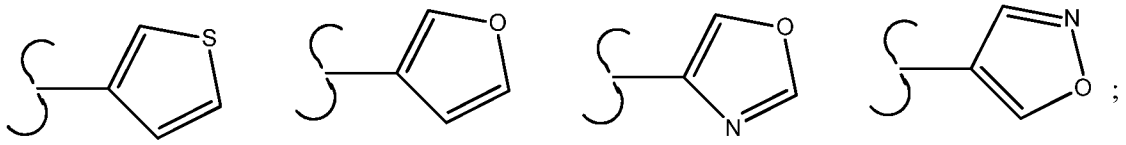
the linkage subunit B is a linear chain of 3 to 9 carbon atoms for linking the inhibition subunit A and the binding subunit C and for enabling the binding subunit C to bind to the binding region on the fatty acid amide hydrolase, ~~the chain having a linear skeleton of 3 to 9 carbon atoms,~~ the linear skeleton having a first end and a second end, the first end being covalently bonded to the α-keto group of A,

wherein [[if]] the first end of B ~~said chain~~ is an α-carbon with respect to the α-keto group of the inhibition subunit A, and ~~then~~ the α-carbon is optionally mono- or bis-functionalized with substituents selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, hydroxyl, alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, and alkyl; and

the binding subunit C is a π-bond containing radical having a π-unsaturation and being an alkenyl having at least one unsaturation, with or without one or more heteroatoms, the binding subunit C being covalently bonded to the second end of the linkage subunit B, the π-unsaturation within the π-bond containing radical being separated from the α-keto group of A by a sequence of no less than 3 and no more than 9 atoms bonded sequentially to one another, inclusive of the linear skeleton for enabling the π-unsaturation to bind to the binding region of the fatty acid amide hydrolase while the inhibition subunit A inhibits the fatty acid amide hydrolase.

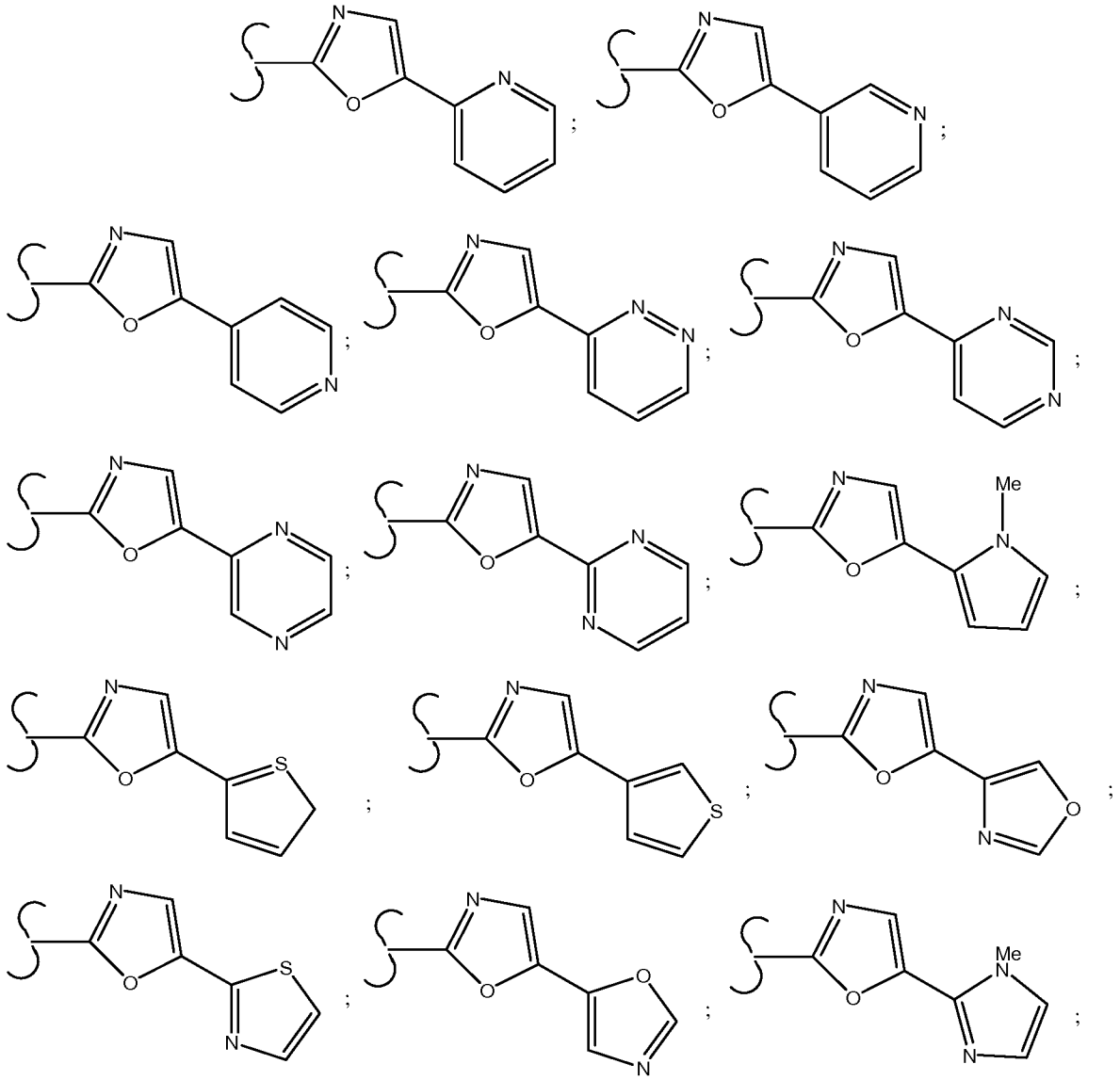
14. (Previously Presented) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 13 wherein R^1 and R^2 are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C6 alkyl, and radicals represented by the following structures:

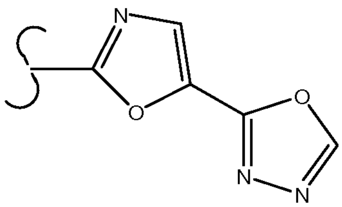
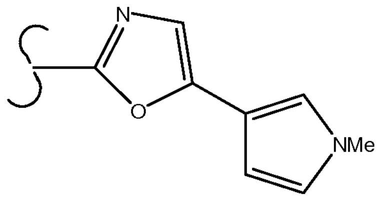
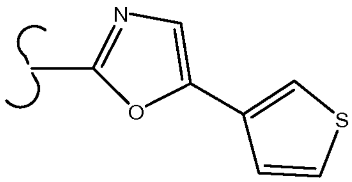


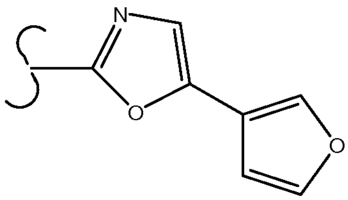
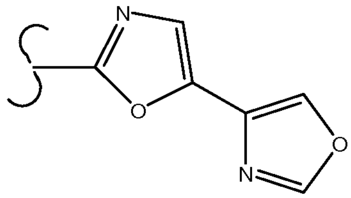
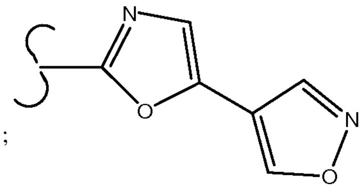


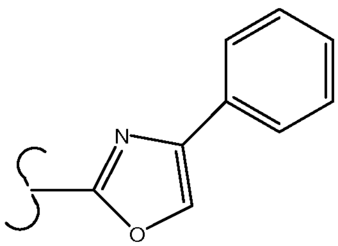
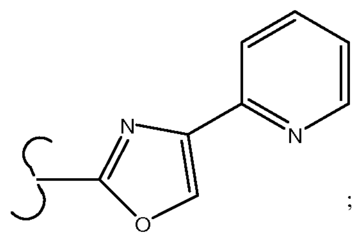
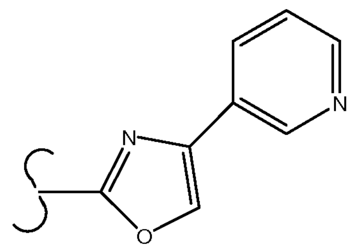
provided that R^2 is not phenyl.

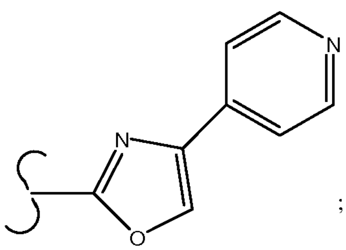
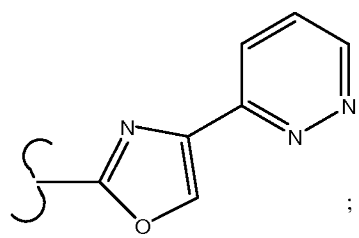
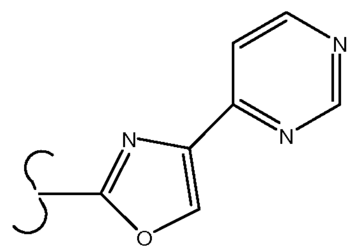
15. (Currently Amended) An inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 14 wherein ~~: "het" of~~ the α-keto heterocyclic pharmacophore of the inhibition subunit A is selected from the following group:

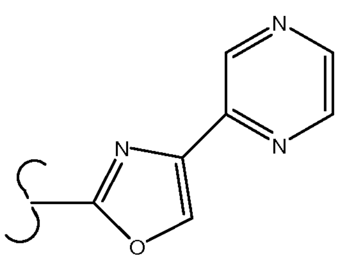
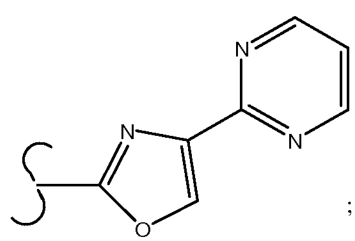
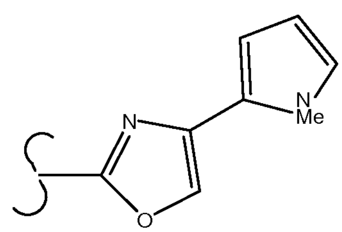


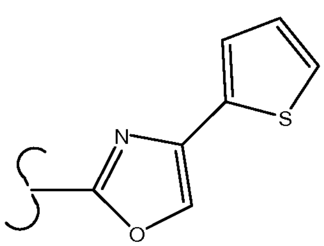
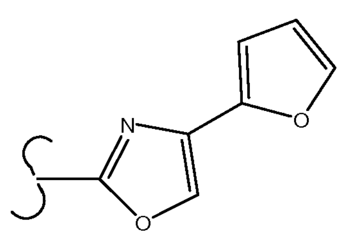
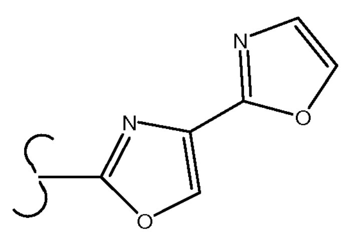
 ;  ;  ;

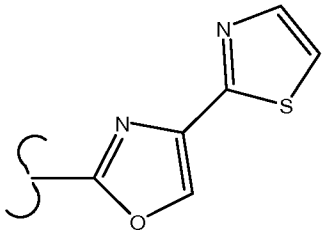
 ;  ;  ;

 ;  ;  ;

 ;  ;  ;

 ;  ;  ;

 ;  ;  ;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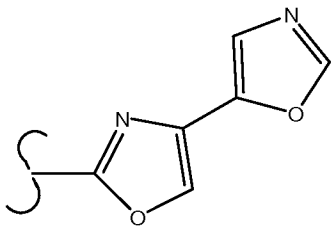
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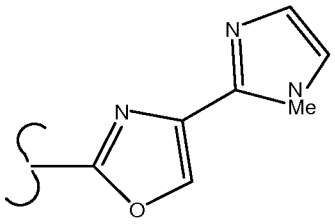
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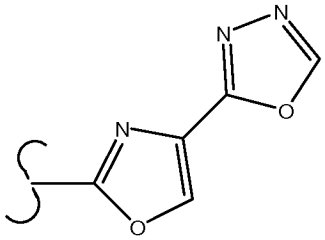
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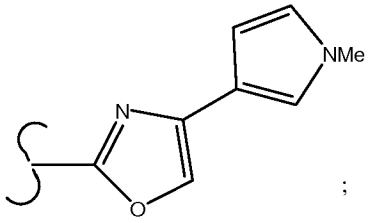
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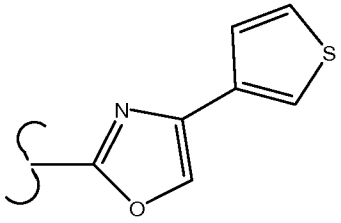
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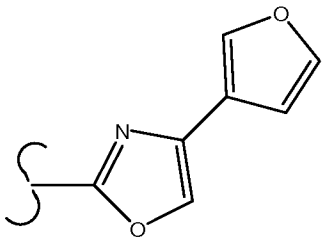
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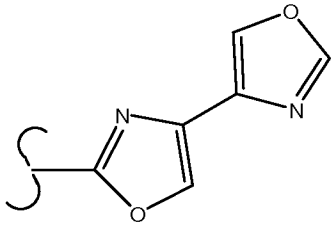
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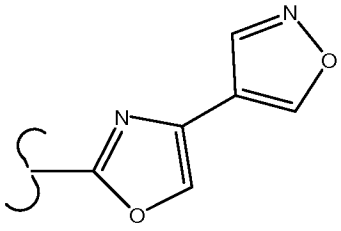
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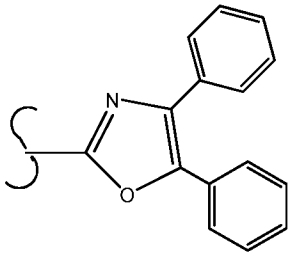
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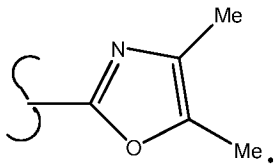
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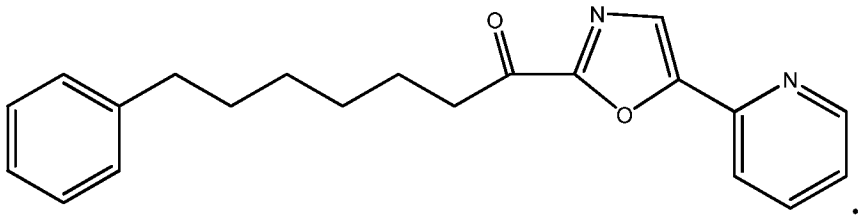
16. (Currently Amended) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 4 wherein <u>one of</u> R^1 and R^2 <u>is</u> ~~are both~~ hydrogen.

17. (Previously Presented) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 4 wherein "n" is 6, 7, or 8.

18. (Previously Presented) The inhibitor of fatty acid amide hydrolase according to claim 4 wherein the inhibitor is represented by the following structure: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